

and three out of every four RSD patients are women; and

Whereas, Alfie C. Burns founded the Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association of California in 1992. The mission of the not for profit organization is to promote education and awareness of this debilitating disorder. The RSDSA-CA is the longest standing organization of its kind in the state and it serves as an RSD information resource; and

Whereas, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) involves numerous medical procedures and a variety of medications if the disease becomes chronic and there is no single standard treatment for the condition. Additionally, medical costs for treatment of the disease can be prohibitive. One of my goals is to double funding for medical research so that new treatments may be found and costs may be curtailed for all Americans with health problems; Now therefore, be it

Resolved, that in recognition of the numerous accomplishments of the RSDSA-CA, the month of October 1999, is hereby proclaimed "Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Awareness Month" in the cities and communities of California's 51st Congressional District.

PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND FAMILIES INTO THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 27, 1999

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 202 and urge its adoption. The House Committee on Banking and Financial Services has incorporated three other worthy bills into H.R. 202. Together, this bipartisan legislation assures affordable housing and needed services for low-and-moderate income senior citizens. This bill will provide a continuum of care to our seniors by making certain that our seniors can afford to live independently in their own homes, and continue to preserve their dignity and self-sufficiency by obtaining services in an assisted living facility as an alternate to nursing home care.

Like other areas around our country, Suffolk County, NY is plagued with high property taxes and very expensive real estate prices. Even middle class senior citizens run out of money and the ability to afford to live on their own, in an assisted living facility, or in a nursing home. In some of our towns, such as Riverhead, Long Island, 25% of our citizens are senior citizens. Some senior citizens are only able to live in their apartments because of the assistance provided through Section 8 vouchers. Others need the supportive services provided by an assisted living facility, but these services are not always available. Although assisting living facilities are being constructed every day, more are needed.

Today, I would like to focus on some particularly important aspects of this bill that will help to address this problem in eastern Long Island and everywhere else in our country.

As contracts with the federal government expire in increasing numbers, landlords can "opt-out" of the Section 8 voucher program that makes housing more affordable for low-income residents, particularly elderly and disabled individuals. Through its "mark-up-to-

market" initiative, HUD recently began to offer increased rents for below market projects whose market rents are between 110% and 150% of Fair Market Rent. This encourages owners not to "opt-out" of the Section 8 program. H.R. 202 expands HUD's "mark-up-to-market" initiative, facilitating even more owners to remain in the program. Even where owners do "opt-out," however, HUD will be able to provide "enhanced vouchers" so that seniors who have been living independently in their homes for years can remain there. The expansion of the mark-up-to-market initiative and these enhanced vouchers are critical to keeping our seniors from having to face relocation or loss of their housing.

The Section 202 program also provides capital to nonprofit organizations to finance construction and rehabilitation for rental housing with supportive services for the low-income elderly. It also provides rent subsidies for sponsors of projects to help make these assisted-living facilities affordable. The Section 811 program provides capital and subsidies for similar housing programs for disabled individuals. H.R. 202 allows refinancing or canceling of this debt for certain older facilities. If the project sponsor accepts these new financial terms, it must put at least 50% of that savings into increasing supportive services, rehabilitation, modernization, or retrofitting of structures for the elderly. Through this innovative process, this bill will help to create more assisted living facilities for our elderly and disabled individuals in all of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, as the newest Member of the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services, I am proud of this bill and urge its passage.

TRIBUTE TO BYRON AND DOROTHY DAVIDSON GERSON ON THE DEDICATION OF THE SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD TRIPLE GATE MONUMENTAL STAIRS AND OBSERVATION PLAZA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday October 1, 1999.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the outstanding civic contributions of Dorothy Davidson Gerson and Byron Gerson. The Gersons and their wonderful family have, for decades, supported a wide range of civic and philanthropic causes. I am honored to know them and welcome the opportunity to pay tribute to them for their unusual devotion to advancing Jewish community life.

The most recent example of the Gersons' generosity will be inaugurated this weekend. On Sunday, October 3, in Jerusalem the Second Temple period Triple Gate Monumental Stairs and Observation Plaza will be dedicated. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, and other Israeli leaders and scholars will participate in this celebration. The Triple Gate restoration project, located in the Jerusalem Archeological Park and developed by the Israel Antiquities Authority, was realized thanks to the strong support of the Gersons. It will be dedicated in loving memory of Dorothy's parents, Sarah and Ralph Davidson, both highly respected for their own contributions to the Jewish community and to civic life.

The historical significance of the Gersons' altruism will be appreciated for generations to come. The Triple Gate and the Double Gate, also known as the Huldah Gates, were one of the principal entrances to the Temple Mount for pilgrims during biblical times. This area of the southern wall was badly damaged following the destruction of the Second Temple. The western Huldah Gate, or Double Gate, now lies below the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The eastern Huldah Gate, or Triple Gate, consisted of three arched entryways at the time of the Second Temple. Now parts of the threshold and the doorjamb are all that remain of the Triple Gate. A monumental staircase was earlier located in front of the Triple Gate. Much of this staircase has now been reconstructed, affording visitors the opportunity to envision the southern entrances to the Temple Mount as it was during the Second Temple period.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the generosity of Byron and Dorothy Davidson Gerson, and in congratulating them on the forthcoming dedication of the Triple Gate Monumental Stairs and Observation Plaza. This project will serve not only as a historical treasure, but also as an appropriate monument to the Gersons' passionate devotion to ensuring that the lessons and legacy of our past are preserved for centuries to come.

RECOGNIZING BASF

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize BASF for its outstanding contributions to the community.

BASF is one of the world's leading agriculture product companies. Its products range from natural gas, oil, petrochemicals and innovative intermediates to high-value-added chemicals, crop protection agents and pharmaceuticals. Among BASF's Hallmarks are its comprehensive know-how, highly developed integrated systems, which are called Verbund and a significant proportion of specialties.

BASF has an enviable and long history of innovative crop protection technologies and agronomic systems. But perhaps nowhere is the rich legacy of BASF more evident than in the soybean industry. BASF also helps cotton growers around the world solve costly insect, disease, weed control and plant physiology problems in more than 50 crops. When it comes to weed control, BASF is the peanut producer's oldest and most reliable partner. BASF is also instrumental for its agricultural products in the crops of corn, rice, apples, citrus and fruits, and vegetables.

All of BASF's products and services help to conserve and maintain values. As a company that operates throughout the world, BASF is responsible for the effects of its products and processes on humans and the environment. BASF is constantly looking for improvements in safety, environmental protection, and health.

Founded in 1965, BASF is committed to being the best provider of knowledge and innovative solutions for crop protection, in the eyes of its customers, employees and the public.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize BASF for its service to the community, nation and world. I urge

my colleagues to join me in wishing BASF many more years of continued success.

NONSENSE CONTINUES TO
DOMINATE THE 106TH CONGRESS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, there are strong rumors that Actor Warren Beatty may run for President in order to highlight the "real issues" facing our great nation. Beatty produced and starred in the movie, "Bulworth," which was a nonsense presentation seeking to ridicule our present political environment. When we listen to the posturing and slogans of the leadership of this 106th Congress it is difficult to distinguish the nonsense on the floor from the nonsense in "Bulworth." Perhaps the political process would benefit from a presidential run by Warren Beatty. He could hold up a mirror for us to see the "bull" we tolerate.

WELCOME BULWORTH

Bulworth welcome
To the Capitol dome
For folks full of bull
This is your home
Manure is splattered
Over the Congress floor
Bring a shovel
Push the grit
Out the Chamber door
Medicare prescriptions
Will bankrupt the nation
BULL
Postpone school construction
Til the next generation
BULL
Money equals free speech
Guns have great
Manhood lessons to teach
BULL
Tobacco smoke is not a pest
Get government out of the medicine chest
Unborn children need protection
Single mothers deserve rejection
BULL
Moral decay killed the kids
At Columbine
Our hi-tech army
Still needs the land mine
BULL BULL BULL.

HONORING A FALLEN DRUG WAR
HERO

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in March of 1998, Colombian National Police (CNP) Captain Wilson Quintero left his base in San Jose del Guaviare for the last time. As he took off in his Vietnam-era UH-1H Huey helicopter, he saluted the ground crew, and left on his mission to fly cover for U.S.-sponsored eradication spray planes. Something all too familiar happened that day. Captain Quintero's aging chopper was shot down by the terrorist group, the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC).

As his chopper was going down, Captain Quintero radioed for help, and proceeded to crash-land his helicopter without severely injuring his crew. Another helicopter landed to take away the injured CNP officers. The helicopter had parts which were deemed to be salvageable, and the decision was made to leave six CNP officers overnight to guard the aging Huey. Captain Quintero chose to stay with his chopper, feeling it was his responsibility.

At dawn the next morning, several CNP Hueys landed near the crash site to pick up Captain Quintero. The sight they came upon was gruesome. Three of the six CNP officers were found with their hands tied behind their backs, face down with bullet holes in the back of their heads. They had been executed by the FARC terrorists. Captain Quintero and the others had been taken hostage by the FARC terrorists.

Over the next 18 months his family waited for any word that he was alive. None came.

In early September 1999, Captain Quintero escaped from his FARC terrorist captors. He stayed on the run through the triple canopy jungles of northeastern Colombia for the next two weeks. The FARC, fearing a successful escape, launched an all-out effort to find Captain Quintero. Captain Quintero did not give in easily. He was shot 35 times in his last stand-off, finally murdered by FARC terrorists. Two fellow CNP counter-narcotics officers were also found executed near Captain Quintero's body.

The CNP, who knew he was on the run, did everything in their power to find him. Every ill-equipped helicopter and aging aircraft was given the recovery of Captain Quintero as a top priority. Unfortunately these aircraft were not able to find him in time.

Captain Quintero is survived by his wife, Carmen Elisa Quintero and two-year old daughter Laura Andrea Quintero Nunez. I extend to his family my deepest sympathy. Mr. Speaker, I ask that Congress take a moment to recognize the service Captain Wilson Quintero has done for our country. Captain Quintero is truly a hero. May he rest in peace.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF MR. BILL
BOWEN

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 1, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional manager and good friend, Mr. Bill Bowen, on the occasion of his retirement from the General Motors Powertrain Plant, located in my hometown of Bay City, Michigan. Bill Bowen's distinguished career spans 39 years, and I believe it is not an understatement to say that many of our families in the Fifth Congressional District owe in part their secure, well-paying jobs to Bill's wise stewardship of the plant.

Those who know Bill say that his strong sense of integrity underscores all their interactions with him. I certainly am well-acquainted with his unflagging commitment to honesty and hard work, for these two qualities

have always been associated with his name. Bill began his career with General Motors in 1956, shortly after graduating from Alma College. While still working, he managed to continue his education and received a master's degree from the University of Detroit in 1966.

Bill held a variety of positions at General Motors Corporation before moving to Bay City in 1977, when he accepted a position as quality manager, and, in 1979, he became a production manager in Brighton, Michigan. In 1990, he was offered, and accepted, the top position of plant manager. This was widely considered unusual, as GM usually slated outside executives for these positions, but it shows the extent of Bill's reputation, and the vast confidence that others had in him.

Over the next decade, Bill and GM-Powertrain continued to shift toward strategic product lines and maintaining a technological edge. GM invested nearly \$1 billion in equipment and tooling for the Bay City plant, and Bill and the Powertrain community delivered. Today, they produce about 40,000 connecting rods daily—although three years ago they produced none. And in 1986, they did not produce camshafts, but now, thanks to Bill's leadership and the Powertrain team, they produce 25,000 daily.

I have great admiration for Bill, as does everyone who has worked with him over the years. Under his leadership, GM-Powertrain has been at the forefront of management/labor relations. The plant has one of the few "living agreement" contracts in the country, which means that the contract never expires; rather, disputes are addressed, and resolved, as they arise. Bill's expertise is not limited to management relations, however, I've worked closely with him on such issues as air quality control standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy [CAFE] regulations. I hope to continue seeking his excellent advice and expertise during his retirement.

Although Bill would never hint to his extensive civic involvement and community volunteer activities, everyone in Bay City has benefited at one time or another from Bill's kindness. For instance, he has led the campaign for the Bay County Women's Center, in the process raising almost two million for the three million dollar facility, all in less than a year. He has been very involved in the United Way of Bay County, where he served as General Campaign Chairman in 1994 and on the Board of Directors for six years. The list of his civic activities is too long to speak about today, but to name a few: Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, BaySail, Bay Health and Junior Achievement of Northeastern Michigan, and of course, the local Little League. Despite these many community activities, despite his commitment to his work, Bill's greatest pride is in his family. Anyone who meets Bill, knows shortly thereafter of his great dedication to his wife Sally, and their two sons, Robert and David.

Mr. Speaker, Bill is indeed a great leader, a kind person, and devoted husband and father. I have no doubt that he will continue to inspire others with his selfless contributions to our community. Today, I urge you and our colleagues to join with me in congratulating Bill Bowen on his retirement from GM-Powertrain in Bay City, Michigan.